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average for 1898-1907. These are the facts, whatever the explanation may be.

JOHN FRANKLIN CROWELL

NATIONAL INSPECTION TO PREVENT IMPORTATION OF DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS

DR. L. O. HOWARD, chief of the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has returned to Washington from Europe, where he has been engaged during the past month in interviewing paid and volunteer agents of the Department of Agriculture and the state of Massachusetts who are assisting in the importation into the United States of the parasites and other natural enemies of the gipsy moth and brown-tail moth. In the course of this work, according to a bulletin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Doctor Howard visited France, Holland, Germany, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland and England, and the results of the trip are already evidenced by the receipt at the parasite laboratory, Melrose Highlands, Mass., of a greatly increased amount of parasitized material, which is being handled at that point by expert assistants and will subsequently be liberated in woodlands ravaged by the gipsy and brown-tail moths. A great interest is shown in the different European countries in this very large-scale experimental work, and the official entomologists and others are anxious to do everything in their power to help the United States.

The brown-tail moth, it will be remembered, was accidentally introduced into this country upon plants imported from Europe. Many other injurious insects have been brought in in the same way, and the danger still exists in the absence of any national quarantine and inspection law. Such quarantine and inspection laws are in force in nearly all civilized countries of the world, and the United States is almost unique in its indifference to this great danger. The amount of money that has been spent by the different states in New England and by the general government in fighting the gipsy and the brown-tail moths alone would support a national inspection service for many years. Last winter there were

brought into the United States, mainly at the port of New York, thousands of apple and pear seedlings from France which carried the winter nests of the brown-tail moth. These seedlings were distributed all over the country. An effort was made, through the assistance of the custom-house authorities and the railroads, to trace of all these shipments to their destination and to secure inspection and destruction of the injurious insects before the opening of spring. It is probable that these efforts were successful, but the experience emphasizes the necessity for a national law.

Doctor Howard was instructed by Secretary Wilson to visit the leading exporting nurseries in Holland, France and England in order to determine the efficiency of any inspection service that might exist in those countries. He found that the inspection service in Holland is excellent, as conducted by J. Ritsema Bos, of Wageningen, and his assistants. Nursery stock bearing the inspection certificate of these officials can be accepted in this country without any danger.

In France it was found that no governmental inspection service exists and that the certificates which have hitherto accompanied nursery stock from that country can not be relied upon. After consultation with the leading nurserymen and the authorities of the Ministry of Agriculture of France, Doctor Howard was assured by the Director of Agriculture, M. Vassilli re, that the French government will immediately establish an official inspection service, under the direction of Dr. Paul Marchal, a thoroughly competent man well known for his work on injurious insects, so that in the future nursery stock coming from France and bearing the inspection certificate of the Ministry of Agriculture can be relied upon.

In England, it was found that no governmental inspection service for home nurseries exists. Officials of the Board of Agriculture assured Doctor Howard that it is the desire of the board to establish such a service, but that the demand must come from the English nurserymen. Members of the Council of the National Association of Nurserymen, of England, were then interviewed, and it seems

reasonably certain that this influential organization will request the Board of Agriculture to establish such a service under the direction of some competent entomologist like Mr. Cecil Warburton, at Cambridge, or Mr. F. V. Theobald, of Wye.

*THE FIVE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIPZIG*

THE committee which took up the task of preparing a suitable memorial address to the University of Leipzig at its five hundredth anniversary has completed its work far enough to send through Professor Williston Walker an illuminated address. This was done in illuminated Caxton letters which belong to the period of the establishment of the university, on three sheets of vellum. The whole was bound in a case of dark green crushed levant lined with white silk. The address which appeared on the first page was as follows:

Almæ Matris Lipsiensis Alumni quondam Americani Rectori Magnificentissimo Illustrique Senatui Inclitæ Universitatis Lipsiensis S.D.P.

Iucundum profecto et honorificum nobis accidit quod participes esse possumus lætitiæ Vestræ et interesse sacris sæcularibus quibus natalem quingentesimum celebratura est inclita Universitas Lipsiensis, et optimarum artium studiorumque severorum cultrix et iuvenum erecta indole ad veræ laudis palmam tendentium fida magistra. Et enim fieri non potest quin memores simus eorum qui semina sapientiæ severint quæ insequentibus sæculis prosint, sic non minore laude ei digni videntur esse qui quæ a maioribus acceperunt diligenter tutati auxerunt.

Nos autem, quamvis alieno sub cælo nati simus, haud alieni hic venimus, immo domum redire videmur, quibus et magistri et doctores, quin etiam locus ipse mutus hic ubi liberalibus artibus imbuti et docti simus cum grata recordatione in mente versetur. Quæ cum ita sint, non tam officio quam pietate adducimur ut meritam Almæ Matri Lipsiensis gratiam iustis honoribus et memori mente persolvamus, Deumque Optimum Maximum precamur ut ductam a maximis laboribus plurimaque virtute stabilitatam Musarum huius sedis gloriam servet et sospitet.

On this first page the capital "I" and the capital "N" at the beginnings of the two paragraphs were elaborately illuminated initials with borders extending upward and down-

ward, enclosing the rest of the matter on the page.

On the second and third pages were the names of the doctors from Leipzig done in Roman capitals, preceded by a brief introduction of the delegate. These pages were also decorated with a border and illumination of the first initials. Photographs of the various pages of the address can be obtained by writing to A. B. Corbin, Chapel Street, New Haven, Conn.

In addition to this memorial a fund of about \$350 is being utilized in sending to the library certain back numbers of American scholarly journals for which the library made special request to the committee, and also in presenting to the library subscriptions to a number of American scholarly journals which the library mentioned in its correspondence with the committee as omitted in the regular list.

The Smithsonian Institution has generously consented to allow the use of its International Exchange service for the shipment of all of this material, so that the journals can be obtained at the regular American rate and back numbers can be forwarded without expense other than that necessary to take them to Washington.

The committee has acknowledged personally to each of the subscribers the receipt of checks and other remittances. If any member of the association cares for a detailed account of the shipments to the library this can be secured by writing to the secretary.

The committee consisted of: Professor J. McK. Cattell, of Columbia University; Professor E. B. Titchener, of Cornell University; Professor Hugo Münsterberg, of Harvard University; Dr. Cushing, principal of the New Haven High School, New Haven, Conn.; Professor Williston Walker, who acted as the delegate and took the memorial to Leipzig; and the secretary.

CHARLES H. JUDD,
Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

As has already been announced, the presidential address at the Winnipeg meeting of the British Association will be given by Pro-